



Imaginary Play

Tea Time!

Goal: Use imaginary play (ex: playing tea party or store) to model social skills, manners, and behaviour regulation.

[Tip]: Demonstrate what proper social skills and behaviours look like in these environments, including facial expressions, eye contact, and listening. Encourage children to play and use the skills that you demonstrated.

Why is this important? Imaginative play relates to the development of social skills including behavioural, emotional, and cognitive regulation. These social skills improve relationship development, school readiness and problem-solving.

References: Guirguis, R. (2018). Should we let them play? Three key benefits of play to improve early childhood programs. *International Journal of Education and Practice*, 6(1), 43-49.
<https://doi.org/10.18488/journal.61.2018.61.43.49>